

# Iowa Medicaid Bureau Chief Anita Smith Biography



Anita Smith has worked for the Iowa Department of Human Services for three decades. Twenty seven of those years have been working with medical programs. Smith has primarily been involved with the development of Medicaid eligibility policy for programs for pregnant women, families, and children. These include implementing the original SOBRA legislation that extended Medicaid coverage to poverty level children, presumptive eligibility for pregnant women, welfare reform initiatives, and the “de-linking” of Medicaid from cash assistance. Smith was also responsible for the implementation of Iowa’s Medicaid premium assistance program in 1991 and implementation of Iowa’s SCHIP program in 1998. In her current role, Smith is responsible for the administration of the Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) program, Iowa’s CHIP program, known as Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (*hawk-i*), Third Party Liability and Medicaid Estate Recovery programs and policy related to Medicaid professional services. In 2007, Smith testified before the US Senate Committee on Finance on the topic of “The Future of CHIP: Improving the Health of America’s Children”. In 2010, Smith was chosen to participate in a new collaborative learning network sponsored by the National Academy for State Health Policy, NASHP, to continue progress on children’s health care coverage. The network is currently limited to only ten states that show a clear potential to contribute and gain from the experience.

Recently, Smith accepted an invitation to serve on a Technical Advisory Group for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate Express Lane Eligibility (ELE) mandated by CHIPRA.



*Anita Smith*

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